

VOCABULARY LEARNING STRATEGIES BY THE FRESHMEN IN AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION PROGRAM

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ABSTRACT

Vocabulary learning is one of the most important challenges that learners will face throughout the language learning process. Vocabulary has been considered as important to language use in which insufficient vocabulary knowledge of the learners led to difficulties in language learning. Coady and Huckin (1999) said that the critical importance of vocabulary in all languages is undeniable because it does not only establish cognitive systems of knowledge, but also facilitates the communicative and comprehensive interaction. Further, the use of vocabulary learning strategies also affects learners' performance. This study aims to describe strategies used by students of Batch 2016 of the English Language Education Program of the Faculty and Language and Arts of Universitas Kristen Satya Wacana, Salatiga in learning vocabulary. Based on the purpose of this study, the best method for this study is descriptive qualitative. A total of 73 students responded to 22 closed-ended questions with options *Yes* or *No* which was designed based on theory proposed by Stoffer (1995) and Schmitt (2000). The result of this study revealed the most frequently used strategies is self-motivation.

Keywords: vocabulary learning strategies, self-motivation strategies, memory strategies, metacognitive strategies, social strategies